



NEWS RELEASE

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Alleged DUI Driver Charged with Murder of Teen Killed While She Slept

A Palmdale man was arraigned today after his car allegedly ran into an apartment complex killing a teenage girl as she slept on Easter Sunday, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Edward Wiley said Roberto Rodríguez (dob 12/20/93) pleaded not guilty to murder, gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage causing injury, driving with a .08% blood alcohol content causing injury.

Case MA063046 also alleges Rodríguez caused great bodily injury upon the victim Giselle Mendoza, 16.

The prosecutor said that early in the morning on April 20, Rodríguez crashed a Nissan Pathfinder into the victim's bedroom inside an apartment complex near Avenue R and 10th Street in Palmdale.

If convicted as charged on all counts, the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 15-years-to-life in state prison. His bail has been set at \$1,030,000 pending a bail review hearing on May 23 in Department A01 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Antelope Valley Branch.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Palmdale Station.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.